The College gathered to farewell our Year 12s. The Old Scholars looked around with joy. The Boarders liturgy was sacred and we have two new Captains.

The Year 12 Mass
The College gathered this week to farewell the Year 12s at a final whole school Mass. It is their last week at school and it seems to have come too quickly. But it was time; time to celebrate all the elements and achievements, all the relationships and personal courage at the ending of their academic year. We gathered 1000 strong on Bosco Oval and were able highlight the importance of a St Mark’s education and its impact on our wonderful Year 12s. It was a time of Eucharist with the presence of many parents. There was excitement on that oval, a traditional farewell site, where Fr Francis helped us understand the holiness even as the sun was thinking about toasting us. On the oval, in the sunshine, where the Year 12s have shared so many schooldays, so many school gatherings, it was a time that was sacred. We prayed the Mass together and Fr Francis spoke movingly about the importance of making a difference to the world. The traditional candle giving ritual was conducted by the Foundation students who offered the Year 12s a gift of a candle to light their way. Supporting this was the eloquent warmth of the speeches by the two Captains, Erini Seindanis and James Ganley, which touched our hearts. We felt grateful for the Year 12s. They had made St Mark’s a place of scholarship because they had learned so much this year. They had made St Mark’s a place of community because they created such fun and established a culture of involvement. They had made the College a place of faith because they had responded in reverence, tried to be open to holiness and learn what is sacred in their journey of 13 years of education. They will be well remembered. It was an important moment for the College.

Boarders’ Farewell
I was fortunate to be part of the Salesian House Boarders’ Farewell as the Year 12 boarders began to anticipate their last nights as boarders. It was a wonderful night of liturgy, gratitude, speeches and supper. The many parents of the Salesian House were in attendance. The Bosco Chapel was full. We all heard of the wonderful spirit of the Boarding community that had unfolded in 2015. There were stories of the Boarders living well together, eating happily, and praying creatively together. There were reminders of telling jokes, slumping around, making sandwiches and toasting them, playing cricket into the darkness and getting on with life. There was an affirmation of the warmth of a hello in the yard and the growing friendships as unity developed. It was wonderful to hear the stories that Mrs Arbon told about Salesian House and how well everyone is doing. Her eyes light up with the inspiration of this community who clearly care about one another and who are trying so...
Old Scholars Gathering
The College hosted the Past Students anniversary groups of 1965, 85, 95 and 2005 last weekend. Past students gathered in significant numbers and were welcomed with enthusiasm, memorabilia and a drink to toast the occasion. The old scholars brought with them memories which are deep and precious. They laughed and shared these treasured reminiscences, held carefully and privately for so many years. It was a joy to see their reunion. The warmth of kisses and handshakes, exclamations of surprise, the shaking of heads in disbelief, numbed stares of what has happened and the real sense of gratitude for each other was shared by all. There was a value at the part played by the school in their lives. I was able to reassure them that the school is in good shape and that what they valued most about the place, what they remembered as essential and formative, remained. The College is very committed to its history and to the people who created this enduring legacy. The old scholars are the people who have created a spirit. Their fun, their scholarship, their relationships, their graciousness and care, created so long ago has been sustained. We wanted to affirm to our Old Scholars that they were an important foundation to what we have now. So we shared happily drinks and nibbles and a beautiful Mass conducted by Fr Francis. We toured with about a dozen members of staff offering reflections and pointing out developments. There were some speeches and then the groups went off to individual dinners in the town. The gatherings were very successful. The 1965 group got home at 11.00pm. I believe that ’85 stayed out until after 2.00am. The 95s actually played up and the sun just about rose on the last of them and 2005 have all been accounted for. We are richer for our alumni. They were delightful visitors.

Two new Captains
I announced the new College Captains for 2016 at the conclusion of the Year 12 Mass. As the Year 12s prepare to leave us it seemed appropriate to let the community know that two young people had been chosen from their peers to accept the opportunity to step into the shoes of leadership. Eve Cappalletto and Patrick Williams will be our new College Captains. They are exemplary young people and we offer them our support and best wishes as they humbly accepted the positions at our recent Mass.

Greg Hay, Principal

Stephanie and Sol share a moment!
The latest edition of Federation e-News has been posted on its website www.parentfederation.catholic.edu.au

The direct link to e-News is here

In this jam-packed edition focussing on family engagement in children’s learning, find out more about:

- The inaugural Parents in Education Week
- School Start Buddy – helping young children learn to read and write
- Learning Potential app for parents
- Family support during Year 12 exams
- Walking with Year 12’s – from an award winning SACE coordinator
- Our new Federation Ambassador Initiative
- Welcome Pack for new families
- Our School in Profile: St Joseph’s, Hindmarsh
- Council member Rebecca Smith

And so much more…..

Be connected. Be informed.

President of the College P&F Jo Court with her daughter Emily

Up and Coming Events

Friday 23rd Oct – Registration forms due for St Mark’s Amazing Race

Sunday 25th Oct at 11am to 3pm – St Mark’s Family Fun Day and Amazing Race

Tuesday 4th Nov at 5pm – Parent Meeting for 2016 Foundation Students at Benedict

As President I chair the P&F meetings and have a seat on the Board to provide a parent voice. I also help coordinate the activities we do over the year. My main aim this year was to open up communication between parents and the school and to engage parents more in our child’s learning. We as parents school our children for the first 5 years of their life, providing a foundation for learning. This means we are an important influence on how they will be educated for the next 13 years at school. Understanding how a school works, and how we can influence our children to be better educated is something important to me, and influenced why I took on the role of President. I’m always open to new ideas, just stop me one Wednesday at school and lets have a chat.

What’s On Our Agenda

If you haven’t already please link into our St Mark’s Parents and Friends facebook page, we keep you up to date on what is going on around the school. Recently we have asked a poll on what Child Safety Workshop’s you as parents would like to attend. The poll indicates that most people would like a workshop on Cyber Bullying and Sexting. Thank you for your responses. It is Parents in Education Week and we want to know how you’d like to be more involved with your child’s learning, if you have any ideas let us know on our facebook page or through the school offices. Thank you also for all your great ideas on how we can spend our P&F funds for the school. In our next newsletter edition I will provide a list of where funds will be spent.

Jo Court

St Mark’s Parents & Friends Profile:
Introducing your President

Name: Jo Court

Link to St Mark’s: I have two children at St Mark’s, Mitchell in Year 2 and Emily in Foundation. Both love the school and their teachers.

Who am I?: I’m a working mum, wife and a local Pirie girl. I try and help the kids out at school as much as possible through canteen, PE, LAP and reading. I find this rewarding and the connection with the kids is fantastic. I love helping people, travelling with my family, good food and catching up with great friends, but most of all I love my coffee every morning! My family and I live out of town and the kids ride the bus most days to school, but I make it my aim to be at school pick up every Wednesday. If you haven’t realised it yet, I adorn your TV screen most nights of the week in one of the new St Mark’s TV ads.

Why did I join P&F? I wanted to understand how our school works and how I could become an engaged parent.

What is my role in P&F?

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**From the Deputy Principal**

**Car Park**
Lots of positives with our newly marked car park and paved ‘drop off zone’!! A lovely story to share this week. One of our grandparents made comment on how pleased they were to have the new ‘pick up zone’; explaining that it is the first time since their grandchild started school that they were able to come in and pick them up themselves due to not being able to physically walk in to their classroom. Well done everyone on your patience, perseverance and cooperation – what a team effort to make something new work, and work well. Thank you.

**Early Attendance**
This term we have adopted a new morning procedure. Due to our staff not being on supervision until 8:25 am, all students and parents entering the school before this time are being asked to wait in the grassed Quadrangle Area (outside the Resource Centre) until the teacher on duty comes out to supervise. Students have been asked to not go around to the classrooms, even to drop off their bags, so that staff are able to adequately prepare for the day ahead without interruption. Office staff and teachers walking to and from class are inadvertently ensuring that the students are waiting appropriately. We appreciate and thank all students and parents who have assisted in this process.

**Special Requests for 2016**
The selection process of class groupings for 2016 are currently being undertaken. If parents have a special request for their child, this is required in writing. The form for this is at the Front Office. Please see Gayle or Marg for assistance before the end of Week 4. Thank you.

**The Year of the Family at St Mark’s**
We have some exciting family events planned in the coming days for the families of St Mark’s to embrace and take part in. We would love to see families at one (or more) of the following:

- **Family Mass**
  Sunday, 25 October 10.30 am at the St Mark’s Cathedral

- **Family Picnic**
  Sunday, 25 October 11-3.00 pm at the Benedict Oval.

See the Facebook site for more details!

**Family Open Hour**
Monday, 26 October from 9-10 am. Starting in the GSH.

All family members welcome to attend and share in some of the students work and share their fruit time (bring your own fruit!).

**You Can Do It! Education Program Update**
In Week 7, staff will undertake a ‘Twilight’ staff meeting session to update their knowledge and experience within the You Can Do It (YCDI) Program that is being re-ignited at Benedict Campus. Rob Steventon will facilitate; taking us through the intricacies of the program, whilst assisting our discussions to develop a plan that ensures the students overall wellbeing is adequately maintained. This professional development will assist us in our planning as we move forward into 2016.

*Kylie Smith,*
Deputy Principal - Benedict Campus

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**SAPSASA Interschool Sports Day**
Thursday 22 October
Bozo Oval

**Year 9 Camp**
2-6 November

**Year 12 exams commence**
2 November

**SAPSASA State Cricket and Tennis Carnival Week**
2-6 November

**Mission Gala Day**
6 November

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**Appreciation and best wishes exchanged by Leana and Emma while Joseph waits patiently**

**Foundation students waiting eagerly to present their candles**

**Aiden presents his cousin Jack with both a candle and a high five**

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**Darcy, Lauren and Joel present the Penitential Rite**
The Green ‘Getting Along’ Key

The Getting Along key is one that grows as you acknowledge and believe in yourself and your abilities. The more successful you feel, the more you will get along with others and be happy. It is not always possible to get along well with others, but it is important to understand that it is alright and not to let it worry you or get you down. Try doing something else with another or new friend and continue to have fun.

What does the Getting Along Key look like?

- Working Cooperatively with others

When you are playing or working with others, it is important to remember to be fair and kind at all times. When you use your Getting Along Key, you are: patient, a good listener and give others a turn.

- Resolving Conflicts without Fighting

Mistakes are a huge part of our lives and the way we learn and grow. If we didn’t make mistakes, we wouldn’t learn right from wrong. It is important for children and adults to learn that fighting and hurting others is not the right choice. Using your Getting Along Key means that you will not hurt or upset someone when you are angry, but will think of the others feelings first and try to resolve the issue through discussion and with adult assistance.

- Showing Tolerance of Others’ Differences

God made us all different and this is wonderful and very special. When we are using our Getting Along Key, we are accepting of each other’s differences – whether they are: big or small, dark or light, thin or chubby, have blue eyes or brown, dark hair or light. When we are tolerant of another, we show kindness and care in all we do and say.

What happens if students do not use the Getting Along Key?

When students do not use their getting along key, they do not feel successful. For example:

If a child is doing group work in the classroom and is not listening to the other students and continually calling out, disrupting others and not taking turns.

What can this student do??

If this student decided to use their getting along key they could:

- Wait for their turn by putting their hand up and being patient.
- Let others have their say and wait their turn.
- Believe that they have something to offer!

But most importantly - they would never give up and they would get help to find a solution to their problem!

So, here at Benedict Campus, we are encouraging our students to be ‘happy and successful’ by using their keys. They cannot do this alone. They need our help! It may take a change in habit/behaviour to get along better with others and ensure that, as a family, you all work together to use the green ‘Getting Along’ key each and every day.

How are you going to work towards being and assisting your children to be more successful and happy today?

Religious Education

Welcome back to Term 4. We have already celebrated a very significant event this week when as a College Community we farewelled the Year 12 students during an F-12 Mass. Our Foundation students felt very privileged to present them with a candle (the Light of Christ) on behalf of us all. We thank Fr Francis for celebrating this special celebration for us.

Last week we launched Mission Month. The theme this year is “I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink”. During this month we are focussing on the children of Madagascar. They have very limited access to clean water and Caritas is implementing initiatives to improve this situation. As part of our outreach students are currently working on fundraising activities for our Mission Gala Day (Friday November 6). Class teachers will communicate with you regarding what activates their class will be organising. Further details of the Gala Day will come home next week.

Our Year 3 students have begun their Reconciliation Programme. This is a time where they will build awareness of choices, consequences and how to make peace within themselves. They will also learn about nourishing their relationship with God and others. We will keep these students in our prayers leading up to the celebration of the Sacrament on November 18.

This weekend (25/10) we invite all families to come along to 10:30am Mass at the Cathedral where students have prepared and will participate in the celebration of the Eucharist. There will be a special emphasis on family as the domestic church and it will be a wonderful prelude to our Family Picnic celebrations back at Benedict Campus. I warmly encourage you to come along and join us there.

Katie Pole,
RE Liturgy/Sacramental Coordinator

College Sports and Special Photos

Photos taken of College students for any special or sport groups can be viewed on line and purchased with Academy Photos.

Please use the key 59NPXF7U
From the Deputy Principal
We farewell the class of 2015
This week we said farewell to the class of 2015. We celebrated by joining in the Eucharist as a whole school community and then with family and friends. Our first ceremony was the Year 12 Farewell Mass, this was celebrated by Fr Francis and was held in the beautiful surroundings of the outdoors, on the Bosco oval or as the Year 12’s would say ‘home turf’. It was a sacred occasion, one which our Year 12 students have looked forward to since they were in Reception. The highlight of the ceremony was of course the candle presentation. There is something quite special about our youngest, who are only at the beginning of their journey, passing the light of Christ to our oldest, who are coming to the end of their journey. It was a beautiful ceremony, one which will stay in the hearts and minds of our Year 12’s for many years to come.

On Thursday evening Year 12 students, families and their teachers gathered at the Cathedral for a Mass of Thanksgiving. The ceremony began with students bringing forth key symbols to represent their St Mark’s journey. The first symbol was a tiny foundation uniform, this was brought forward to represent growth, and the many hopes and dreams parents had when enrolling their child at St Mark’s. The second were oils that belonged to the Benedict chapel at school. They are a symbol of our healing and care. The third item was a photo of the Year 12’s on Retreat. This highlights the friendships formed during their time here. The fourth symbol was a red heart. This was brought forward to represent St John Bosco and the love and courage that kept them going. The fifth item was a book which emphasised opportunity and scholarship. The final symbol was a crucifix, which represented the faith that dwells at the centre of the school.

At the end of the celebration students were presented with graduation sash, on it listed the class of 2015. This was symbolic of the learning journey travelled with their peer group. They came up by house, each standing proudly, smiling from ear to ear, just beaming at their parents. Their faces said ‘mum, dad, I did it’. The mums and dads were of course all smiling back. Their faces saying ‘I’m so proud of you, that’s my baby up there’. Everyone applauded. It was a very special moment that indeed touched my heart.

The celebrations continued on Friday for the Year 12’s final day. It began with a BBQ coordinated by John Gibson and cooked by the wonderful Bosco staff. A few tears started to creep in on this day. We said farewell as a Bosco community and again in Caregroups and as a House. There were presents exchanged, stories shared and special music performances.

The final week for Year 12’s is a wonderful rite of passage, we celebrate them well. The class of 2015 will definitely be missed and we wish them all the best as they embark on their final examinations.

The dark blue patch
I was excited to return to school last week only to be greeted by a beautiful group of Year 11 girls. ‘Ms Kilpatrick, Ms Kilpatrick, look...’ As I look down at the hem line I noticed the wonderful dark blue trim. I smiled. They giggled. It was a beautiful moment. It made my day.

United as one. The Year 12 boys say goodbye

SAPSASA Interschool Sports Day
Thursday 22 October
Bosco Oval

Year 9 Camp
2-6 November

Year 12 exams commence
2 November

SAPSASA State Cricket and Tennis Carnival Week
2-6 November

Parent Meeting 2016
Foundation Students
5.00 pm at Benedict Campus

Mission Gala Day
6 November
ATTENTION: Parents of Year 10 students who plan to do VET/TAFE next year in Year 11
Monday 26 October, 2015 at 6pm in the BGC, you are welcome to attend an information session to help prepare for next year.

The Regional Manager of TAFE SA, Mr Robin O’Dea, and our McNally Farm Manager, Mr Joel Head will be presenting, along with our Principal Mr Greg Hay, and our Deputy, Ms Kate Kilpatrick.

A variety of courses will be discussed, including the Trade Skills Centre Certificate II in Rural Operations, along with eligibility criteria, costs and paperwork requirements.

Come along with all your questions.
If you have any questions prior, please contact me on 86338837 or satkinson@stmarkspirie.catholic.edu.au
Ms Simone Atkinson
Student Pathways Co-ordinator

On October 9, Ms Travers and Sr Elizabeth Young met up with 3 YCS students for a social outing. We met at Cafe’ Primo for lunch, which was quite delicious. Afterwards we left for the Keith Mitchell Theatre to watch Pixels in 3D. I thought Pixels was an awesome movie and the 3D just blew me away. I can’t wait to watch another move in 3D.
Harrison Coe
Year 8 student

We gather as one to wish the Year 12 cohort of 2015 all the best with their future endeavours.
The Year 12 boys “Shout to the Lord” with great gusto

Riley, Isabel and Jarrod in deep conversation

Our student representatives / tour guides

Memoriabilia displayed renewed many memories for our Old Scholars

Our very best wishes to our Year 12 Boarders - Jake, James, Cameron, Maddison, Ben, Genevieve, Ellen and Jess

Procession of the Gifts: Fr Francis, Vyanah, Kycenn, Peter and Kylie

Our student representatives / tour guides
Sports News

Sportsperson Award
Tyson Hanlon won the Kevin Schwartz Be Active Up – Sportsperson Award at the recent Regional State Foundation Cup held at Berri. Congratulations Tyson!

Ballet Excellence
Students of ‘Ballet Techniques’ recently sat their International Ballet Examinations. All students did exceptionally well and will receive their results, medals and certificates, signed by Darcy Bussell, on stage next week – the 24th October.

Congratulations to the St Mark’s Benedict students:
- Maelie Williams
- Leila Blight
- Elise Vanlaarhaven
- Emmerson Jones-Lawrie
- Amity Williams
- Rhianna Featherstonhaugh
- Jordan Gorey

St Mark’s Soccer Report 2015
It has been a very successful and eventful year for soccer at St Mark’s College in 2015. With two high school teams competing every weekend throughout the winter, and a senior knockout side progressing to the semi-final stage of a 43 school competition, there was plenty of the beautiful game to take in.

Our weekend soccer teams consisted of one side made up of Year 8 students and the other team of students from Year 9 and above. Both sides faced challenges throughout the year but battled bravely to end the season in the show piece Grand Final at Byrne Park on a blustery Friday night in September. The Year 8 team played fantastically well and upset the highly fancied Mid North Rangers in a hard fought contest that was their best performance of the season. The Year 9 and above team was not so successful with a brave defeat against the much bigger and stronger John Pirie High School. It was a fantastic night that was well organised by the Port Pirie Junior Soccer Association and all the students gained a wonderful experience of playing under lights.

Our senior knockout side had a great run all the way to the finals day at Burton Football Complex in Adelaide and played some terrific soccer along the way. With many ups and downs the team fought resiliently to finish third in a competition with 43 schools, losing to eventual winners Cardijn College. For the first time this year soccer was included in the Father Dennis Handley Cup against Xavier College. Although Xavier won the inaugural game it was played to an excellent standard and was the most exciting finish of the day, with the match only decided via penalty shoot-out, proving the sports worth in this prestigious sporting exchange.

I would like to thank all players for the effort throughout the year and for their parents and caregivers for the time they sacrificed. In particular I would like to thank Steve Garden for his help all year with the Year 8 team. I would also like to acknowledge the support of Dominic LoBasso, Jess Oxford, Greg Congdon, Pia Keain and George Kouimitzis for all their help throughout the year. Ken Fay - Coach

Year 9 and above Soccer Team coached by Ken Fay
Senior Knock Out Soccer Team PenaltY Shoot Out Line Up

St Mark’s Sport proudly sponsored by

alsanto constructions

24 October 2015
St Mark’s College Garage Sale
Trade Skills Centre – Orage Street, Port Pirie
8.30am to 11.30am
Numerous Biscuits, so many you cannot see them all and check it out. One offer you cannot miss is another Mark’s treasure.

St Mark’s College
Trade Skills Centre
Orage Street
Port Pirie, SA 5540
24 October 2015
NOTICES

ANZ Tennis Hotshots
Intro to Tennis for 5-8 year olds. David Tilbrook, in conjunction with the Port Pirie Tennis Association, will be offering ANZ Tennis Hotshots this year for 8 weeks commencing on Saturday, 31 October from 9am (with a break for School Holidays). Your child's start time will be confirmed once registrations have been received and groups determined. Sessions will run for approx. 45mins and cost will be $40 for the 8 weeks, payable as a lump sum to David Tilbrook prior to, or at the first session. Email registrations of interest to samarandavid@bigpond.com or text on 0407425235 by NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, 23 October 2015. Please include child's name, date of birth, parent contact name, phone number and email address. Please also include details of previous participation in Hotshots if applicable (this will ensure you child is placed in the appropriate group). For more information please contact David Tilbrook on 0407425235.

New Theatre Jazz Class
For 7-10 year olds. No experience required. Call Meleeta from 'Ballet Techniques' on 0400 099 919 to enrol for 2016.

SINGING LESSONS
Available at school. For more information please call Anne Hansen on 0429 866 242 or 86 36-2231.

BASEBALL
Cats Baseball Club are looking for any 10-15 year olds interested in playing baseball. If you want to do something fun this summer, come and have a try. Season is starting soon. If interested contact Scott Wartle 0417099120 or Rowen Voumard 0418831660.

Parents in Education Week
19-22 October. A State wide initiative recognizing the significant role of parents and families in children's learning and in our schools. Free workshops for parents held. For further information visit https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/parents-in-education-week-registration-1862340918

“Sleeping Soundly”
Australian Red Cross & Partners in Recovery presenting information sessions for those affected by sleep problems. Guest speakers. Sessions start at 7:00 pm in the following areas: Crystal Brook 26 October, Crystal Brook Golf Club Peterborough 27 October, St Joseph's School Clare 28 October, Barbara J Long Function Room, Clare Town Hall.

The Gentle Arts Exhibition
Pt Pirie Embroiderer’s Guild and Floral Art Group Port Pirie Tourism and Arts Centre 9-25 October Monday-Friday 9-5 pm Saturday/Sunday 11 am-3 pm

Pt Pirie Triathlon
Tuffkidz is a programme designed to introduce young children aged between 7 and 13 years to the sport of triathlon. Children in this level may be assisted by a parent or guardian through the race as the focus is on simply giving it a go!

Events:
Sprint (16 years and over): 750 m swim/20 km cycle/5 km run
Sprint ITU Juniors: 750 m swim/20 km cycle/5 km run (Draft legal race)
Surf (13 years and over): 300 m swim/10 km cycle/2.5 km run
Surf ITU Youth: 300 m swim/10 km cycle/2.5 km run (Draft legal race)
Tuffkidz (7-13 years): 100 m swim/2 km cycle/1 km run
For more info and to register online http://www.excelssports.com.au/

“Fame” and “Fortune”
Two short plays presented by John Ovenden. Tuesday 27 October 6:30 pm. Pt Pirie Regional Library. Phone 8632 1649 for further information.

ATTENTION
Students who catch the Gladstone/Crystal Brook
(Hanley Bus)
If you require a seat in 2016 please confirm your place by contacting Deb Slade on 86 33-8836 or email dslade@stmarkspirie.catholic.edu.au